REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is filed in reply to the Office action dated September 1, 2006. Claims 4, 14 and 24 are amended. Accordingly, after entry of this Amendment and Response, claims 1-30 will remain pending.

I. Claim Objections

Claim 4 is objected to for improper grammar. In response, claim 4 has been amended by inserting the word "of" after the word information to correct the grammar. Claims 14 and 24 have been similarly amended to correct the grammar.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2003/0121013 to Moon et al. (hereafter "Moon"). This rejection is respectfully traversed because Moon is insufficient to anticipate claims 1-30. The rejection of independent claims 1, 11, and 21 are addressed first.

To anticipate a claim, each and every element as set forth in the claim must be taught either expressly or inherently, in a single reference. *See MPEP § 2131.* Moon does not teach creating a unique clock waveform as required by independent claims 1, 11 and 21. The Office action cites paragraphs 8 and 41 of Moon as teaching this limitation. We respectfully disagree. Paragraph 8 indicates that the model can capture the latch time borrowing behavior of the original netlist for some given clock waveform. Paragraph 41 indicates that a model is produced that is clock context independent – it is valid for clock waveforms different from the ones used to build the model. That is, Moon teaches a model that is independent of the clock used in creating the model and not creating a unique clock waveform as required by the independent claims.

Further, Moon does not teach defining a clock domain for the clock waveform as required by independent claims 1, 11 and 21. The Office action cites paragraph 36 and Figure 2B of Moon as teaching this limitation. We respectfully disagree. Figure 2B is a state transition diagram of a flip flop that identifies transitional relationships between check arcs and delay arcs on input and output transitions. Thus, Moon does not teach defining a clock domain as required by independent claims 1, 11 and 21.

Moreover, Moon does not teach injecting the clock domain into a control node. The Office action cites paragraph 36, figures 1-2, 5-6, 9-10, 13-14, 18, 19, and 21 as teaching this limitation. We respectfully disagree. The cited paragraph and figures teach delay arcs and check arcs, techniques to merge arcs, and how to insert assertions into the generated model rather than teaching injecting the clock domain into a control node as required by independent claims 1, 11 and 21.

Finally, Moon does not teach propagating the clock waveform from the control node to a transitively adjacent observation node based upon propagation of the clock waveform. While Moon discloses a model extraction process that is based on a simple graph contraction that merges delay arcs and check arcs, Moon does not teach clock waveform propagation as required by each of the independent claims.

Insofar as Moon does not teach all the limitations of independent claims 1, 11 and 21, it cannot anticipate them. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, claims 1, 11 and 21 are patentable over Moon, believed in form for allowance, and such indication is respectfully requested.

The remaining rejected claims 2-10, 12-20 and 22-30, all depend, either directly or indirectly, from one of independent claims 1, 11 and 21. Accordingly, these dependent claims 2-10, 12-20 and 22-30 are themselves patentable over Burger for at least the reasons set forth above for independent claims 1, 11 and 21 and such indication is respectfully requested. This statement is made without reference to or waiving the independent bases of patentability within each dependent claim.
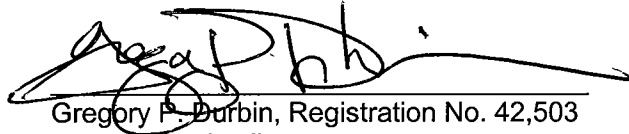
IV. Conclusion

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for his thorough review of the application. The Applicant respectfully submits the present application, as amended, is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the issuance of a Notice of Allowability as soon as practicable.

This Amendment is submitted contemporaneously with a petition for a one-month extension of time in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.136(a). Accordingly, please charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 in the amount of $120.00, for a one-month extension of time fee. The Applicant believes no further fees or petitions are required. However, if any such petitions or fees are necessary, please consider this a request therefor and authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 04-1415 accordingly.

If the Examiner should require any additional information or amendment, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated: 22 Dec 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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